JAMES J. CURTO
770 Lincoln Road
Grosse Pointe, Mich. 48230

April 15, 1964

Hello Eric.,

Thank you for your letter of April 7th and for the info re: Mr Page. Ill be patient.

Regarding Atkins Cat - Schnell's Cat, I thought, was a copy of Atkins Cat. See his article - (copy of 1st 2 page enclosed). Low's Cat is on pages 11 thru 18 of Scott Stamp + Coin Ltd's "Standard Coin Catalogue - Copper" - 16th Edition - 1890

Its diffuent than Schnell's (or Atkins) Cat in many instances. If you do not have this listing Eric - Ill have a copy made for you, if you want it, as I have the Scott 1890 Catalogue.

"over"

My goal in this direction Eric is that I'm very interested in Colonials and want to be able to identify a specimen when I run across one. I'm after knowledge & every available listing I can obtain - and want very much to be prepared to obtain specimens by recognizing them when I run across them.

I will be looking forward to purchasing one of your books on counterfeit halfpence & Bungtown as soon as it is published. Again thanks.

Regards.

Jim C.

Please be nice enough to send this to the writer of the BUNGTOWN article in your May, 1968 issue. (Craig Miller).

From the desk of
ERIC P. NEWMAN

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

May 1, 1968

Mr. Craig Miller
Rochester, New York

Dear Mr. Miller:

Your article in the May, 1968 NUMISMATIST with respect to BUNGTOWN pleased me very much. It is a subject on which I, personally, have been researching for approximately twenty-five years. I am now in the process of writing a book on the subject. I hope you will continue its study.

Much of your information was obtained from written material of the past and I am sorry to say that what has been written in the past is almost entirely in error but the coins, however, speak for themselves.

I am interested in learning the source of your statement that the first recorded appearance was in Birmingham in 1752. Is this from The Gentlemen's Magazine, or what?

May I hear from you.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/stb

THE ROCHESTER JR. NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
ROCHESTER MUSEUM OF ARTS & SCIENCES
657 EAST AVENUE
ROCHESTER 7, NEW YORK

Mr. Edwin P. Newman
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman,

I would like to apologize to you, as I would to all collectors of British Tokens, for the incompleteness, the brevity, and for the incorrections in my article in the May Numistmatist. The fact of the matter is that this article was rewritten from a rough outline of a talk I was preparing for the RNA and submitted with neither my knowledge or consent. To the best of my knowledge the Bungtown coins were first discovered in Birmingham in 1745. This, I believe, is from the 1752 issue of The Gentleman's Magazine.

When originally researching for my article I was greatly hindered by a lack of good referance material on the subject. Therefore I will eagerly be awaiting the completion of your book.

Sincerely your's,

Craig Miller

Craig Miller

showing (probably Ne plus Ultra New York). Struck on U S cent. Unique.

57 No date. Eagle on U S shield LIBERTY. Struck from Rev. Stamp die on U. S. cent. Unique. From Parmelee sale, 1890.

PENNSYLVANIA.

58 1771-92 Half pennies. Generally in similitude of British coins but with curious legends as GEORGE RULES, GREGORY III PON, ALFRED THE GREAT, etc., etc., circulated in this State. Condition is better than usual, it is generally known that these rude coins are flat and poor, while these are mostly fair to very fine, and it being such a remarkable collection it seemed a pity to disperse it, so they will be sold as 1 lot at so much each coin. Believed to be different. Each in small tray, numbered. 246 pcs.

59 1771-92 Similar. 1 farthing. Not classified. Poor to very fine. 23 pcs.

NEW JERSEY.

60 1786-8 Cents. Maris Nos. 14-J, 15-L, 16-L, 18-M, 23-R,

17th Edition
Scott Standard
Catalogue No. 5
1893
Copper and Nickel Coins

No.		Fair.	Good.
9	1787 Cent. Bust. Nova Eborac. *R.* Liberty setd *r.* Virt et. Lib.....	75	2 00
10	1787 Cent. Same. *R.* Liberty seated *l*.....	65	1 50
11	1787 Cent. Similar. Bust, and Liberty seated, smaller	—	—
12	1787 Cent. Sim. Largest bust. Two quatrefoils precede Nova..	—	—

13	1789 Cent. Clock. Mott, Jeweller. *R.* Eagle. (Thick and thin planchets).....	65	1 00
14	1794 Cent. Liberty standing. *R.* Ship. Talbot, Allum & Lee...	1 50	3 00

15	1794 Cent. Similar. New York above ship, (2 var.).....	50	75

No.		Fair.	Good.
16	1795 Cent. Similar. New York *below* ship....	75	1 25

There are mulings of the obverses of the T. A. & L. Cents, with English Halfpenny Tokens of same period.

CASTORLAND.

		Fine.	Proof.
1	1796 Head *l.* Franco-Americana Colonia. *Ex.* Castorland and date.	1 25	2 00

This is also found in silver.

For an account of this Colony and the foregoing piece, see *Hickcox* American Coinage, p. 85.

PENNSYLVANIA.

(No legal coinage.)

General type in imitation of British and Irish Halfpence of George II and III, 25 to 50 cents each, with few exceptions.

For detailed list see Low's arrangement in our 15th and 16th editions.

VERM

No.

1 1785 Cent. Vermo
tori. Bust *r.*
mune Colum

2 1785 Cent. Mounta
trees, sun *l.*
diant sun...

3 1785 Cent. Sim.
eight trees.
monts. *R.*
eye. (2 var.)

4 1785 Cent. Ver

5 1786 Cent. Similar.
Vermontensiu

Vol. IX No. 3
March, 1918

THE QUESTION BOX

From various correspondents in different sections come these questions.

The Ducat—Where and When First Issued

The silver pieces issued in Apulia in 1140 by Roger II of Sicily in his own name and that of his son Roger III, Duke of Apulia, had the legend R. DX. AP. for **Roger Duke of Apulia**, and were officially known as **ducati**, or "coins of the duchy." These were the earliest "ducats." This term was also applied to the gold coin, 118 grains, dated 1558, of Mary I, of Scotland, struck during her union with the Dauphin of France. Ducats were also struck for various Continental States.

Foreign Dollars Struck Before 1794

Has any foreign nation struck coins called dollars, before the United States struck them in 1794?

There are silver coins of James VI. of Scotland (1567-1603) known as sword-dollars. These are dated from 1567 to 1571 inclusive. Obverse, name and title and the crowned arms of Scotland between I. R., both crowned; reverse, a sword erect, having a hand on the left of the sword pointing to the value X X X on the right side, the date below. Legend: PRO. ME. SI. MEREOR. IN. ME. (For me; if I deserve it, against me.)

These were current for Thirty Shillings Scots (Thirty pence English). The double mark issued from 1578 to 1580, is also known as the thistle-dollar. The reverse of this consists of an uncrowned thistle between I. R., the date, and legend: NEMO. ME. IMPVNE. LACESSET. (No one shall hurt me with impunity.)

Charles II. struck for Scotland coins known as dollars, dated 1676, 1679 and 1680 to 1682. These have his bust on obverse, and the shields of Scotland, England, France and Ireland crowned in form of a cross, a thistle in each quarter, and two C's interlinked in center.

What Is a "Bungtown Copper?"

This term is mostly given to imitation regal half-pennies of George III. It has been claimed they were made at a place called Bungtown, now Barneysville, in Swansea, Mass. Any kind of copper of crude workmanship, struck without proper authority, that circulated in the United States or Canada might be called a "bungtown." Tokens with a bust and legend such as **"George rules,"** with a harp, and "Britains Isles" on reverse, are sometimes called Pennsylvania bungtowns. We are pleased to say, for the credit of Pennsylvania, that this is not correct. They are British tokens and listed as such by Atkins in his work on that series.

The Gold Stella—Is It a Regular Coin?

The Stella or four dollar piece was struck in 1879 as a pattern coin for a new denomination, but was not adopted. Only a few specimens were struck.

Thos L Elder Sale
of Henry C Miller Collection
May 26, 1920

PENNSYLVANIA HALF PENCE AND FARTHINGS.

Commonly known as "Bungtowns." Made in England in imitation of Various European and English coins, bearing chiefly the heads of George II and III. Some are satirical or humorous in type and inscription. The series has been treated by both Messrs. Crosby Atkins and L. H. Low. The following is one of the largest collections, and one of the finest, ever offered in American sales. They circulated largely among the early German colonists in the eastern part of the state, in fact the cataloguer has hardly met with a single example in Western Pennsylvania, where he resided for many years. And a good many of them never left England. On July 14, 1781, Joseph Reed, President of the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth, issued a proclamation stating that "divers ill-disposed persons have manufactured or imported into this State quantities of base metal, in the similitude of British half pence, but much inferior in value and weight to genuine British half pence to the great depreciation of that coin, the injury of the community in general, and the poor in particular—and we have, therefore, thought proper to prohibit, and do hereby strictly enjoin all officers—not to receive such base coin in any payments whatsoever—and do earnestly recommend to all the faithful inhabitants of this State to refuse it in payment—and to make due inquiry after offenders in the premises, that they may be brought to speedy and condign punishment." Mr. A. R. Frey, a well known writer on numismatic topics, in his Dictionary of Numismatic Terms, states in speaking of the word "Bungtown," that it is a name given to clumsy imitations of the English half pennies, which circulated extensively in Pennsylvania and other states in the latter part of the eighteenth century. The name is probably derived from the slang term 'to bung—meaning to cheat or deceive' ".

HALF PENCE WITH HARP REVERSES.

These types are usually a crowned harp with Hibernia on the front of the harp turned to the left.

OBVERSE HEADS TO LEFT.

1687 Head of George Washington. Name. NORTH WALES. VG. Rare.

1688 BRUTUS SEXTUS. Rx. MUSIC CHARMS 1775; DELECTAT RUS; NOBEBGTA (?) 1696. VG. to Une. Rare. 3 pcs.

1689 GEORGE RULES. Rx. [illegible] NORTH WALES and [illegible] others, 1760, 1760, 1781.; also 1782; another Rx. HIBERNIA 1791. G. to fine. Some scarce. 8 pcs.

Description and illustration of 160 "bungtowns"

EIGHTEENTH CENTURY IMITATIONS OF BRITISH REGAL COPPER COINS

By

MENDEL L. PETERSON, A.N.A. No. 11596

(A 1955 A.N.A. Convention Paper)

THE IMITATIONS of the regal copper coins of Great Britain and Ireland known as "bungtown coppers" are a class of coppers about which little is known. The origin of the name itself is obscure. According to the *Dictionary of Numismatic Names* by Albert R. Frey, which is usually considered as a reliable source of information, bung is defined as "A slang term used by thieves in referring to a purse." Bungtowns: "A name given to clumsy imitations of the English half pennies which circulated extensively in Pennsylvania and other states in the latter part of the eighteenth century. The name is probably derived from the slang term, 'to bung,' meaning to cheat or deceive."

Col. Sigler suggests that "Bungtown was a more or less sarcastic nickname given to copper below the accepted standard, and a *general* rather than *specific* term." In the literature of numismatics they appear at length in three works. Atkins in his *Tradesmen's Tokens of the 18th Century* lists 491 varieties alphabetically by the obverse legends. Charles N. Schmall gives the Atkins list in *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine* for Nov. 15, 1945. More recently Col. Phares O. Sigler offers a fine discussion of the subject in Chapter XII of his series "The Coins of Colonial America" in *The Coin Collector's Journal* for September-October, 1946. Other references to them are found in Neil Carothers' *Fractional Money*, Crosby's *Coins of Colonial America* and Ruding's *Annals of the Coinage of Britain*. This being the case, I shall not attempt to list all of the known varieties of bungtowns nor shall I attempt to duplicate a discussion which has been given in so fine a manner by Col. Sigler.

The purpose of this article is to describe and illustrate an unusually large collection of bungtowns which was formed by Randolph Zander of Alexandria, Va., and to furnish additional historical notes which might be of value to those interested in the series. Thus, for the first time collectors will be furnished an illustrated list which, while far from complete, contains most of the types which ordinarily come to hand. Incidentally, Atkins states that "... Many of the varieties are exceedingly rare, and with the exception of some few, they are all scarce."

The origin of the bungtowns is obscure. They appear to have originated in the 1750s around Birmingham, England. This theory is substantiated by a letter published in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for November, 1752, Volume XXII, page 500, which is cited by Col. Sigler. From this letter which I quote at length below, it appears that the bungtowns originated in an attempt to circumvent the counterfeiting laws which were being enforced with new vigor in the late 1740s and early 1750s. The idea behind them was a simple one. The coiner would strike (not cast as with earlier counterfeits) tokens which would

Mendel L. Peterson, naval historian and acting head curator, department of history, U. S. national museum, is a reserve officer in the U. S. navy. Recently his interests have led him to search for sunken Spanish galleons and other ships lost centuries ago in the Caribbean area.

The Numismatist Apr. 1956 Vol 69

bear distorted legends appearing to the illiterate as identical to the regal issues, but which could not be called counterfeits since they were not direct copies of the legal coin.

About seven years ago, the town of Birmingham was visited by the solicitor of the Mint, upon an information that several persons were employed in making counterfeit halfpence. When several offenders were taken into custody and brought to justice being try'd at the county assizes and ordered to suffer two years imprisonment . . . time has shown that the punishment of two or three was not sufficient to deter others from the like practices; on the contrary, the last winter and the preceding one, these counterfeit halfpence abounded more than ever insomuch that few payments were made without a large proportion of them. Several advertisements were published, offering a reward for apprehending the makers, but without success. This was followed by a general refusal of them,* and their circulation in that form ceased; but soon after the beginning of last spring; these authors published their works in a new edition; the practice of making counterfeit halfpence was revived with this improvement, that whereas they were before cast in sand, they are now made in a stamp or press.

The writer then described the new coin as a "... variety of impressions ... all distinguishable from one another, and from the genuine halfpence, to which the counterfeits are very much inferior."

The idea seems to have met with great success in view of the large number of varieties of bungtowns which exist and the long duration of their issue — 40 years or more. The coiners imitated both English and Irish coppers. The circumstances of their origin suggests that the types showing the head of George II with distorted legends are the earliest examples. Later, satirical and patriotic types were produced concurrently with the distorted legend varieties. An examination of the list will show such curious distortions as Ganges III for George III, such lively satire as that displayed by No. 102 which combines a somewhat less than sympathetic portrait of George III with "GOD SAVE THE KING OF ENGLAND" and patriotic motifs such as those paying tribute to Lord Howe and his sailors for their naval victories.

The bungtowns circulated extensively in Great Britain, at first frowned on by the honest merchant, but later, as the Regal coinage became less and less adequate, with the approbation of even scrupulous tradesmen. Ruding states that by the year 1789 "... advertisements appeared frequently in the publick papers, that counterfeit Halfpence would be received for goods."[1] If the bungtowns circulated in such numbers in Great Britain, they probably found even greater currency in the North American colonies and the free states after the Revolution, since the shortage of small change was probably greater in America with a market which was rapidly expanding as the colonies developed. But the speculators who imported the bungtowns overshot their mark and the resultant flood of imitations led to numerous complaints in the new states after the Revolution. Neil Carothers considered the unrestricted dumping of bad coin on the American market the immediate "cause for the first efforts to establish a national coinage."[2]

*When the cast counterfeits began to be rejected in England, speculators apparently began shipping them to the North American colonies in large quantities with the result that increased agitation against them developed. See Scott, Kenneth, *Counterfeiting in Colonial New York*, New York; The American Numismatic Society, 1953.

1 Ruding, Rogers *Annals of the Coinage*, Vol. II, p. 499
2 Carothers, Neil, *Fractional Money*, p. 44

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Sigler, Phares O.: "The Coins of Colonial America," Chapter XII "Bungtown

Mehl's Num Monthly
Vol 9 No 3 p 38
Mar 1918

quarter, and two C's interlinked in center.

What Is a "Bungtown Copper?"

This term is mostly given to imitation regal half-pennies of George III. It has been claimed they were made at a place called Bungtown, now Barneysville, in Swansea, Mass. Any kind of copper of crude workmanship, struck without proper authority, that circulated in the United States or Canada might be called a "bungtown." Tokens with a bust and legend such as **"George rules,"** with a harp, and "Britains Isles" on reverse, are sometimes called Pennsylvania bungtowns. We are pleased to say, for the credit of Pennsylvania, that this is not correct. They are British tokens and listed as such by Atkins in his work on that series.

The Gold Stella---Is It a Regular Coin?

The Stella or four dollar piece was struck in 1879 as a pattern coin for a new denomination, but was not adopted. Only a few specimens were struck.

The Counterfeit "Bungtown" Coinage of England

by Craig Miller, ANA J-58110

In the 18th century "bungtown" was a term used by thieves in referring to a purse or purse-snatcher. As time went on it became used in reference to the clumsily struck counterfeit English half-pennies which circulated extensively in Pennsylvania and other Middle Atlantic states in the 1780s and '90s. It stems from the slang term "bung," meaning to cheat or swindle.

The exact origin of these pieces is not known, but their first recorded appearance was in Birmingham, England in 1752. They have the same monetary value as the regulation half-pennies, therefore, the only practical purpose for their existence would be to put an end to the present counterfeit laws which were very harsh and being fully enforced at the time.

Unlike previous counterfeits these

coins were struck from homemade dies and not cast from a mold. Because of this it would seem that they would be virtually undetectable but instead of bearing the portrait of the present king, George III, they were struck bearing the busts of foreign and older, more preferred English monarchs. They bore satirical legends, mocking the British Government and the mental state of the king. They were also inscribed with advertisements for inns and taverns. Besides being critical of the government and King George they publicized the exploits of war heroes, such as Lord Howe and in one case the fictitious adventures of the counterfeiter who struck the piece.

Along with the bust of George III, whose name was distorted into such variations as Ganges, Gorges, and Gregory and Lord Howe, these "coins" also depicted William Shakespeare, King Carolus IIII, Claudius of Rome, Alfred the Great, Percy Kirk, Pope Celstin II, and Charles Fox. They possessed legends such as "music charms," "unity and peace," "Britons forever" and "George rules" – phrases not seen on the regulation coinage of the time.

For the Junior

Craig Miller, president of the Rochester Junior Numismatic Association, discusses the fine points of his article on bungtown coppers with John Jay Pittman, ANA governor and advisor to the junior club.

Most of these specimens were probably struck by people who were merely dissatisfied with the present form of government for there was little or no profit in the production of "bungtowns" and served as a method of expressing one's views without being persecuted. Only a few of these counterfeiters were ever apprehended and so the production of these "coins" flourished in England until about 1818 when the modern production methods of Matthew Boulton and James Watt were introduced and standard, more exact, less easily counterfeited coins went into production on both sides of the Atlantic making the counterfeiting of copper coins an obsolete profession.

OFFICIAL UNITED STATES MINT REPORT

Coins Dated 1968 — Through February

Denomination	*Prev. Total*	*Feb. Prod.*	*Year Total*
Half-dollars	32,792,000	40,340,000	73,132,000
Quarter-dollars	21,804,000	24,928,000	46,732,000
Dimes	54,664,180	62,880,000	117,544,180

THE COINS OF COLONIAL AMERICA

By PHARES O. SIGLER

CHAPTER XII

BUNGTOWN COPPERS

INTRODUCTION

The Bungtown tokens are a puzzle to modern collectors and it will probably require many years of painstaking study by some interested numismatist before the key to their history is discovered. It is true that a lot has been written concerning them, both at the time of their appearance and later, but the early commentators who decried the fraud being perpetrated on the public by these coppers never bothered to describe a single specimen, but always lumped the despised coppers into a group labeled *Birmingham* or *Bungtown* coppers. As a result we are somewhat at a loss to know exactly which colonial tokens were included. To add to the confusion the name *Bungtown*, as we shall see later, probably changed its meaning as the years passed.

From 1648 to 1673 thousands of tokens were in circulation in England and the issuance of a royal proclamation prohibiting their manufacture and circulation had little effect because of the shortage of legal coins of smaller denominations. By 1787 the English halfpence and farthings were so extensively debased and counterfeited that scarcely one fourth of the halfpence and one tenth of the farthings in circulation in England were produced at the mint. To relieve this situation, merchants, manufacturers, and cities struck or procured tokens which at first contained almost their denominational value in copper and bore the promise of the issuer to redeem them on demand. Later, however, less copper was used and thousands of tokens were issued without pledge of redemption.

The Bungtowns are thought to have first appeared sometime during the middle of the eighteenth century as a result of successful efforts of the Solicitor of the Mint in putting an end to the forging of halfpence and farthings in the form of direct copies of the genuine copper coins. It is said that early in the spring of 1751 the former forgers "published their works in a new edition, that is no longer cast in sand, but stamped in a press with a variety of impressions, all distinguishable from one another and from the genuine half pence".[1] Nowhere was the fraudulent character of these pieces better illustrated than in their dates, a few of which were apparently fixed many years prior to the actual manufacture of the pieces. Remembering that they were first issued during the middle of the eighteenth century, it will be observed that their dates range from 1686 to 1789, although the majority fall within the decade of 1770 to 1780.

The Bungtowns generally recognized by numismatists of today are those coppers of varying weight and design described by James Atkins as "Imitations of the Regal Coinage" in his *Tradesmens Tokens of the Eighteenth Century*. This list, while comprehensive omits many varieties and a few types which have come to light since his time. Many of the legends are in Latin, perhaps to confuse the uneducated poor into whose purses they came to repose, and some amusing combinations result from the indiscriminate use of reverse dies bearing legends foreign to those on the obverses. For example: GREGORY III PON– BONNY GIRL; GEORGEIVS WASHINGTON—NORTH WALES; IOHN SON PUGALIST. MUSIC CHARMES; and SHAKESPEAR—INCORPORATED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT.

[1] Gentlemen's Magazine Vol. XXII p. 500.

Name

The imitations described by Atkins were known in England as "Birmingham Coppers" and "Brummagems", the latter being a corruption of the name of the city where most of the tokens were struck. One contemporary reference to the name *Bungtown* appeared in the Newport Mercury in 1787 in which was stated: "By a correspondent of good intelligence we are informed that all copper by law in New York, except Bungtowns, are fixed at 100 for a dollar".[2] The most generally accepted explanation of the origin of the word *Bungtown* is that it was suggested by the English slang *to bung*, meaning to cheat or deceive, although some writers attribute it to the supposed origin of some of the Bungtown coppers of Barneysville, a village in the township of Rehoboth, Bristol County, Massachusetts, said to have been known as *Bungtown* in its early days.

It is believed that *Bungtown* was a more or less sarcastic nickname given to coppers below the accepted standard, and a *general* rather than a *specific* term. Irrespective of the original meaning, the evidence points to the fact that the word *Bungtown* was subsequently broadened to include all base and worthless coppers, for we find that it was used years later to describe the "Hard Times" tokens of the Jackson era and the Canadian "Blacksmith" tokens.

Places of Manufacture

It is certain that practically all of the Bungtowns known to Atkins were made in England; most of them at Birmingham, but some at other cities such as London, Wedgbury, Bilston and Wolverhampton.[3] Many began their careers as blank flans of the required size and thickness after which they were delivered to the coiners for stamping. The manufacturer of the blanks could place himself beyond prosecution by maintaining with a show of innocence that his wares were for purposes other than coinage as, for example, blanks used in the manufacture of buttons.

Numismatic commentators have variously asserted, or in some instances implied, that some of the Bungtown coppers had their origin in Massachusetts; Vermont; Ulster County, New York; Connecticut; and Rhode Island. None of the proofs presented, however, are persuasive unless we conclude that the term includes the counterfeit British halfpence made at the place where the Vermont and Connecticut coppers were struck. As an indication of the contemporary suspicion that some of the tokens were of local manufacture, the following is quoted from an American magazine of April, 1788. "The circulation of the *Birmingham* and other counterfeit and base coin, should be totally suppressed, whereby an end would be put to the iniquitous trade of importing into this country (*or manufacturing here*) such base coin, and purchasing gold and silver with it, of nearly four times its intrinsic value (comparing their nominal sums) for exportation; a trade which is carried to a most alarming height, and attended with very dangerous consequences."[4] (Italics supplied). At the present time, the exact place of origin of many of the Bungtowns remains unknown.

Other Possible Bungtowns

The *Bungtowns* offered on todays market are very inexpensive, but surprizingly few are offered for sale. An American dealer described 38 Bungtown halfpence and 6 farthings in a sale in 1920 and this seems to be the largest offering in recent years. One possible explanation for the conflict between the reported abundance of Bungtowns and their present day scarcity, is that counterfeit British halfpence and certain

2 *Craigie, Sir William*—A Dictionary of American English on Historical Principals. Vol. 1. p. 356.
3 *Colquhoun, Patrick*, p. 111.
4 American Journal of Numismatics. Vol. 7 p. 23.

American Colonial tokens other than those described by Atkins were included in the term of Bungtowns.

Prior to a thorough study of eighteenth century counterfeit British halfpence by Wylls Betts in his article *Counterfeit Half Pence* published in 1886, these pieces were believed to have been manufactured in Birmingham, England. He concluded, however, that some of the counterfeit half pennies of George III after 1775 were made in America, and that some of them were from the same mints which produced the coins of Connecticut and Vermont. We know that British counterfeits were sent to our shores in great numbers and that as they were brought into discredit in England, the volume of their export increased. One English author, in referring to copper pieces in circulation in his country, stated that: "more than half the circulation was in base Birmingham imitations. A great number of these counterfeits, after they were decried in England, were shipped to America, where they circulated as cents."[5] Since *both* Bungtowns *and* counterfeits were made in Birmingham, it is possible that *both* were originally described as Birmingham coppers there, and as Bungtown coppers here, since the two names were used synonymously in America. Several of the outstanding students of colonial coins and tokens have agreed that these counterfeits might have been so described by the colonists. Although most of the Atkins Bungtowns did not even faintly resemble the British half pence, the counterfeits were almost identical with the genuine coins.

[5] Golding, Charles, p. 77, 78.

In addition to counterfeits, it is possible that other pieces not heretofore suspected were actually Bungtowns. Many early American tokens, especially those classified as "Miscellaneous" have an obscure history. Modern writers place too much emphasis on the patriot appeal of these tokens, and too little upon the fact that they were light in weight and seldom redeemable by their issuers. The complaints against the Bungtown were not that they were crudely designed and poorly struck, but that they were a fraud because they were light in weight, of poor metal, and not redeemable at their face value.

Many of the early American tokens were as deficient in weight as the Bungtowns, were manufactured in Birmingham and imported into this country, and bore no promise of redemption. The following could well have been Bungtowns, and several of them are listed by Atkins as "Imitations": Kentucky token; Nova Constellatio coppers; North American, Auctori Plebis and Georgius Triumpho tokens; the Bar cent; the Franklin Press cent; and some of the Washington tokens. It is very probable that if one of our ancestors had in his purse one counterfeit British halfpence, one of the tokens described by Atkins, and one of the above American tokens, he would have referred to all of them as *Bungtowns*, especially if he possessed them at the time when merchants refused to accept them, or offered to receive them at a discount.

The state copper coinages were frequently discounted when presented for payment in states other than that of their issue, and this was especially true of the lighter pieces. In the circumstances, it is within the realm of possibility that such coppers were classed as Bungtowns in the states where they were being discounted. An interesting little rime which appeared on page 3 of Vol. XIII, *American Journal of Numismatics* (January, 1879) cannot be used as authority, but it does show that the above thought isn't original:

"A rustic youth of numismatic mind,
While buying "brummies"* to increase his lot,
Was asked if new or rare ones he did find
Replied with knowing wink, that 'some' he'd got,
'Mister', in confidential tones said he,
'The luck I've had is such one rarely finds:
I've one Varmount, one Novy Cesarce,
And of Connecticut, I've got *both kinds*' "

Circulation

The fact that the Bungtowns were imported from England naturally led to their circulation in the cities of the Atlantic Seaboard states and one writer[6] said: "These private coins flooded the currency and became a matter of universal complaint. They were especially troublesome in the Atlantic cities". Some of the tokens circulated in Massachusetts and their prevalence in Vermont is said to have made further minting operations of the State mint unprofitable, and led to its closing. McMaster says that so many Bungtowns had been thrown into Rhode Island that the legislature found it necessary to pass a law prohibiting their circulation.[7]

There were so many bad coppers in New York City that the Bungtowns were freely accepted and it was reported that: "There was not a handful of genuine pennies in the town, and every British ship that came into port added to the quality of bad ones".[8] We also find that the following comment in a letter written from that State

* Apparently a contraction of "Brummagems"—the nickname applied to Bungtowns in England.
6 Carothers, Neil. p. 44.
7 McMaster, John B. Vol. 1, p. 400.
8 Ibid.

in 1789: There has been a mighty convulsion here lately on account of the coppers. We abound with them in this place and they are generally light and bad. On a sudden the merchants refused to take them at more than half and some at more than one third, that they had passed at. At Philadelphia I hear they have fared much in the same manner."[9] It is doubted that the Bungtowns were more abundant in any state than in New York, not because so much information is available concerning their presence there, but because of the need of copper coins for the extensive commerce of that state.

Some bad coppers circulated in New Jersey even in competition with the State's copper coinage; these included counterfeit of the local coinage. In an act passed June 4, 1787, entitled "An act to Prevent the Circulation of bad and light coppers in this state" the preamble recited: "Whereas, the Circulation of Coppers which are of base Metal, and below the proper standard, must be productive of great Evils to the commercial Part of this State, if not timely prevented."[10]

Crosby's discussion of Bungtowns in a chapter captioned "Pennsylvania" apparently furnished Frey with his authority for the statement that the Bungtowns "circulated extensively in Pennsylvania and the other states". It is believed that this State had no more than many of the coastal states, and not nearly as many as New York. Because of the lack of a state coinage of copper both New York and Pennsylvania doubtless offered a tempting market for the coppers. The early Geman colonists living in the eastern part of Pennsylvania apparently received more than their just share.[11]

Like Rhode Island, New York and New Jersey, Pennsylvania passed laws prohibiting the circulation of the Bungtowns.

Heretofore historians and numismatists have not referred to the circulation of Bungtowns in the South, but in a letter dated August 25, 1787 to Thomas Pinckney, Governor of the State of South Carolina, John Hinckley Mitchell, a Charlestonian, wrote: "I must also beg leave to remark to your Excell'y that the Copper British Coin at present in circulation in South Carlina, is not generally understood. It is not of the King's coinage at the Tower of London, but a base mixed metal, or imitation called here counterfeits—of little or no value —made on purpose by persons who run the risk of the law by so doing, and which base money is bought by persons of every description who come to America, for the purpose of passing them as current."[12]

Carothers said: "Historically, conditions arising in the development of the fractional currency (which he defines as coins and paper notes of a value less than one dollar) have had a decisive influence in determining the course of the United States finance. Failure to recognize these facts had led currency historians to misinterpret major events in our currency history"[13] and again[14] he claims that the popular dislike of the "debased tokens" was undoubtedly the cause of the first efforts to establish a national coinage. This being true it seems worthwhile to attempt to learn more about the Bungtowns.

9. Numismatist, Vol. 41, p. 337.
10. *Hickcox, John H.*, p. 108.
11. *Elder, Thomas*, p. 130.
12. *Mitchell, Boulton*, p. 6.
13. *Carothers, Neil*, p. 6.
14. Ibid, pp. 44, 45.

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Catalogue of United States and American Colonial Coins Lyman H. Low 838 Broadway New York (Boston 1885)

		Very fair	Very good.
1795	Cent: Liberty standing. ℞ Ship r. NEW YORK below ship,	$ .75	.25

There are several scarce mulings of the two last obverses, with English Halfpence.

PENNSYLVANIA

(State, 1783).

(No legal coinage).

General types in imitation of British and Irish Halfpence of George II and III, 25 to 75 cts. each, with few exceptions.

The absence of date indicates that there is none on the piece.

	Obverse.	*Reverse.*	
1	ALFRED	BRITONS GLORY	
2	ALFRED THE GREAT	MUSIC CHARMS	
3	" " "	SOUTH WALES	
4	" " "	UNITY AND PEACE	
5	AUCTORI PLEBIS	HISPANIOLA	1760
6	" "	INDEP ET LIBER	1787
7	BRUTUS SEXTUS	BEL ONA	1771
8	"	BRITAN NIA	1771
9	"	BRITON RULE	1773
10	"	NOBIEGTA	1966
11	"	NORTH WALES	1709
12	"	" "	1792
13	"	" "	1799
14	"	PAX PLA CID	1775
15	CELESTIN II POPE	NORTH WALES TOKEN	
16	CLAUDIUS ROMANUS	BRITAINS ISLES	1777
17	CLAUDIUS ROMANUS	BRITAIN RULES	1771
18	" "	BRITANNIA ISLE	1774
19	" "	BRITANNIAS ISLE	1777
20	" "	DELECTAN DUS	1771
21	" "	DELECTAT RUS	
22	" "	" "	1771
23	" "	DELECTAT RUS C	1774
24	" "	MAY BRITONS RULE	1779
25	" "	PAX PLA CID	1773
26	" "	" " "	1775

149	GULIELMUS SHAKESPEAR....	BRITONS GLORY.....	
150	" "	BRITONS RULE.....	1771
151	" "	" "	1791
152	" "	ENG LANDS GLORY	
153	" "	STRATFORDIENSIS.....	1781
154	GULIELMUS SHAKSPEAR.....	HISPANNIOLA	1791
155	GULIELMUS SHACKSPIRE.....	BRITAN NIA ISLES.....	
156	" "	BRITANNIAS ISLES.....	
157	GULIEMUS SHAKESPEAR	BRITAN NIA	
158	" "	NORTH WALES.....	
159	" "	" "	1792
160	GUSTAVAS VASA.....	BRITANN CUS.....	1771
161	IOHN HOWARD F R S.....	UNITY AND PEACE.....	
162	IOHN KEMP	NORTH WALES.....	1796
163	" "	UNITY AND PEACE.....	
164	IOHNSON PUGALIST.....	NORTH WALES.....	
165	IOHN WILKINSON IRON MASTER	" "	
166	LONG LIVE THE KING.....	BATER SEA.....	1776
167	" " " "	BRITAN NIA RULES THE MAIN	
168	LOUIS THE SIXTEENTH.....	BRITONS HAPPY ISLE.....	
169	" " "	MUSIC CHARMS.....	
170	LUD XX DEI GRA.....	BRITANNIAS BAND.....	1771
171	LUGDUN XV DEC GRATIA....	FRANCIAE ET NAVARÆ EX-CUSS.....	1720
172	OLIVER CROMWELL	SOUTH WALES.....	
173	PAYABLE AT I WILLIAMS	(Blank)	
174	" " " "	BRITANNIAS ISLE	1791
175	" " " "	MUSIC CHARMS.....	1775
176	" " " "	NORTH WALES.....	1792
177	PAYABLE AT W WILLIAMS ...	" "	1782
178	" " " " ...	" "	1792
179	PAYABLE AT WM.....	DELECTAT RUS	
180	PRINCEPS WALLIÆ.....	" "	
181	" "	PAX PLA CID.....	1775
182	ROMULUS.....	VIRTVS NVNG DEFICIT ICXXX	
183	SFORGIVS I LUDOVICUS XVI..	(Blank)	
184	SHAKESPEARE	NORTH WALES.....	
185	SHAKES PEARE.....	RULE BRITANNIA	1771
186	SR BEVOIS SOUTHAMTON.....	HALFPENNY	1796
187	" " "	NORTH WALES.....	
188	TVRCVPELLERIVS.....	HISPANNIOLA	

189 THOMAS SEYMOUR.....BRITONS HAPPY ISLE.....
190 " " .....MUSIC CHARMS.....
191 " " .....NORTH WALES.....
192 " " .....SOUTH WALES.....
193 WILLIAM PIT P M.....MACCLESFIELD HALFPENNY 1792
194 WILLIAM WILLIAMS.....HIBERNIA 1766
195 WILLIAMS WILLIAMS .....NORTH WALES.....
196 XER III SVIGROEG.....AIN NATIRB..... 1771

FARTHINGS.

Obverse. *Reverse.*

197 DUKE OF YORK.....FARTHING 1796
198 GEOGIS III BEX.....BRITAN NIA..... 1777
199 GEORGE GORDON,.....PEACE AND PLENTY .....
200 GEORGE RULES.....BRITAN NIA ISLS.....
201 " " .....BRITAN NIA ISLES.....
202 " " .....BRITANNIA RULES..... 1771
203 " " .....BRITAN NIAS ISLES .....
204 " " .....FARTHING 1793
205 " " .....MNITH INO..... 1797
206 GEORGEY GORDON.....PEACE AND PLENTY .....
207 GEORGIUS II REX .....FARTHING 1778
208 GEORGIUS PEL LEW .....BRITONS RULE..... 1776
209 GLORIOVS H OWE.....BRITAN NIA..... 1794
210 GLOROIVS DUNCAN .....BRITAN RULES..... 1771
211 GOD SAVE THE KING.....FARTHING.....
212 GRAGORY II PON.....BRITAIN RULES 1771
213 IC NEWTON.....BIRTONS RULE..... 1794
214 " " .....FARTHING 1793
215 " " ..... " 1794
216 ISAAC NEWTON.....BRITAN RULES..... 1797
217 " " .....COMMERCE PROTECTED....
218 " " .....FARTHING 1771
219 " " ..... " 1793
220 LORD CAMDEN.....PEACE AND TRADE .....
221 SR ISAAC NEWTON.....FARTHING 1793

VERMONT

(State, 1791).

		Very fair.	Very good.
1785	Cent: Mailed bust r. ℞ Liberty seated r. IMMUNE COLUMBIA,.....	—	—

Lyman H. Low, Numismatist,

NEW YORK.

	Fair.	Good.
Penny. Pallas between Cupid and Psyche. *R.* Spread eagle. New Yorke in America,	—	—
1786 Cent. Bust. Non Vi Virtuti Vici. *R.* Liberty seated. Neo Eboracensis,	—	—
— Cent. Similar, poorly executed. *R.* Shield as on New Jersey cent. E Pluribus Unum. Without date,	—	—
1787 Cent. Bust, George Clinton. *R.* State arms. Excelsior 1787,	—	—
1787 Cent. State arms. Eagle faces *l.* Excelsior. *R.* Heraldic eagle. E Pluribus Unum,	—	—
1787 Cent. Similar. Eagle faces *r.*	—	—
1787 Cent. Indian. Liber Natus Libertatem Defendo. *R.* State arms. Excelsior,	—	—
1787 Cent. Same. *R.* Spread eagle on globe. Neo Eboracus 1787 Excelsior,	—	—
1787 Cent. Bust. Nova Eborac. *R.* Liberty seated *r.* Virtet. Lib.	75	2 00
1787 Cent. Same. *R.* Liberty seated *l.*	50	1 50
1787 Cent. Similar. Bust, and Liberty seated, smaller,	—	—
1787 Cent. Similar. Largest bust, two quatrefoils precede Nova,	—	—
1789 Cent. Clock. Mott. Jeweller. *R.* Heraldic eagle,	40	75
1794 Cent. Liberty standing. *R.* Ship. Talbot, Allum & Lee,	1 50	3 00
1794 Cent. Similar. New York above ship. (2 var.)	40	65
1795 Cent. Similar. New York *below* ship,	75	1 25

There are mulings of the obverses of the T. A. & L. Cents, with English ½d. Tokens of same period.

CASTORLAND.

	Fine.	Proof.
1796 Head l. Franco-Americana Colonia. *Ex.* Castorland and date,	1 25	2 00

PENNSYLVANIA.

(No legal coinage.)

General type in imitation of British and Irish Halfpence of George II and III, 25 to 50 cents each, with few exceptions.

Low's Second List.

The absence of date indicates that there is none on the piece.

Order by number.

	Obverse.	*Reverse.*	
1	ADMIRAL JERVIS	RULE BRI TANNIA	1797
2	AL FRED	BRI TONS GLORY	—
3	ALFRED THE GREAT	MUSIC CHARMS	—
4	" " "	SOUTH WALES	—
5	" " "	UNITY AND PEACE	—
6	AUCTORI PLEBIS	HISPANIOLA	1736
7	" "	INDEP ET LIBER	1787
8	BRUTUS SEXTUS	BEL ONA	1771
9	" "	BRITAN NIA	1771
10	" "	BRITANNIA RULES	1771
11	" "	BRITON RULE	1772
12	" "	NOBIEGTA	1696
13	" "	NORTH WALES	1769

	Obverse.	*Reverse.*	
14	BRUTUS SEXTUS	NORTH WALES	1792
15	" "	P "	1799
16	" "	AX PLA CID	1775
17	CELESTIN II POPE	NORTH WALES TOKEN	—
18	CLAUDIUS ROMANUS	BRITAINS ISLES	1777
19	" "	DELECTAN DUS	1771
20	" "	BRITAIN RULES	1771
21	" "	BRITANNIA ISLE	1774
22	" "	BRITANNIAS ISLE	1777
23	" "	DELECTAN DUS	1771
24	" "	DELECTAT RUS	—
25	" "	" "	1771
26	" "	DELECTAT RUS C	1774
27	" "	MAY BRITONS RULE	1779
28	" "	PAX PLA CID	1773
29	" "	" "	1775
30	COLONEL KIRK	BRITONS HAPPY ISLE	—
31	" "	NORTH WALES	—
32	" "	" "	1795
33	" "	" "	1796
34	COLONEL PERCIE KIRK	BRITONS OWN HAPPY ISLE	1686
35	CORNWAL LIS IND	BATER SEA	1779
36	" "	BONNY GIRL	1779
37	" "	BRITAIN RULES	1771
38	" "	BRITAN NIA RULE MAIN	—
39	" "	BRITAN NIA RULES THE MAIN	—
40	" "	BRITAN RULE	1771
41	" "	BRITISH GIRLS	1788
42	" "	BRITISH TARS	1797
43	" "	DELECTAN DOS	1690
44	" "	HIBERIA	1776
45	" "	HIBERNIA	1776
46	DUKE OF BEDFORD	BRITISH TARS	1797
47	" "	MUSIC CHARMS	—
48	DUKE OF YORK	BRITANNIAS HERO	—
49	" "	HALFPENNY	1781
50	GANGES III RATE	BRITANNIA RULES	—
51	" "	STRATFOR DIENSIS	1781
52	GDOROVIS TII RDX	BERTAN NUA	1775
53	" "	BERTEN NOE	1771
54	GEOBGUIS TI ROX	BRITAN NIA	1771
55	GEORUDIS III RIX	BRITAINS ISLES	1771
56	GEORCIVS III KEX	HIBE RSIA	1769
57	GEORGE II MAG	NORTH WALES TOKEN	—
58	GEORGE FOR EVER	BRITONS FOR EVER TOKEN	—
59	GEORGE GORDON	BATER SEA	1779
60	" "	BONNY GIRL	1779
61	" "	BRITONS RULE	1776
62	" "	" "	1791
63	" "	SOUTH WALES	1796
64	GEORGEIVS WASHINGTON	NORTH WALES	—
65	GEORGE KING OF B	HALFPENNY	1777
66	GEORGEON IL PES	HIBERNIA	1696
67	GEORGE III RULES	BRITAN NIA	1775
68	" " "	" "	1777
69	GEORGE PE WALES	BRITANNIAS HERO	—
70	GEORGE REIGND	PITT FOR EVER	1730
71	GEORGE REIGNS	BATER SEA	1779
72	" "	DELECTAN DUS	1771
73	" "	SOUTH WALES	1696
74	GEORGE RULED	BRITAINS ISLES	1736
75	GEORGE RULES	" "	1721
76	" "	" "	1730
77	" "	" "	1731

Note: This differs slightly from 1890 (11th Edition)

Scott's Standard Catalogues Nos
Copper Coins
1888
15th Edition

	Obverse.	*Reverse.*	
78	GEORGE RULES	BRITAINS ISLES	1756
79	" "	BRITANNIA ISLES	——
80	" "	BRITANNIA GUARDS	1771
81	" "	BRITANNIAS ISLE	1791
82	" "	BRITANNIAS EARD	1771
83	" "	BRITANNIAS ISLES	1773
84	" "	" "	1777
85	" "	BRITAN RULE	1771
86	" "	BRITISH TARS	1771
87	" "	BRITONS RULE	1791
88	" "	DELECTAT RUS C	1774
89	" "	HEBRIDES	1781
90	" "	HERE KNIA	1769
91	" "	HIBEKNIA TD	1760
92	" "	HISPANNIOLA	1791
93	" "	HILARI TAS	1771
94	" "	NORTH WALES	1756
95	" "	" "	1760
96	" "	" "	1761
97	" "	" "	1769
98	" "	" "	1771
99	" "	" "	1775
100	" "	" "	1781
101	" "	" "	1782
102	" "	PAX PLA CID	1772
103	GEORGERY TOL REN	BONNEL GEL	——
104	GEORGE SUSSEX	BATER SEA	1779
105	" "	BATER SEA TOKEN	——
106	" "	BRITAN RULE	1771
107	" "	BRITONS RULE	1791
108	GEORGE SUS SEX	BRITAIN RULES	1771
109	GEORGE TEL REN	YELAREBIH	1777
110	GEORGIUS III REX	NORTH WALES	1782
111	GEORGIVS III REX	GEORGIVS III REX	——
112	" "	HIBERNIA	1696
113	" "	HIBERSIA	1769

114	GEORGIVS TRIUMPHO	VOCE POPOLI	1783
115	GEORUGIS II RUX	BRITANNIA	1771
116	" "	BRITAN RULES	1771
117	GEORUGIS III RUX	HIBE RNIA	1776
118	GEORUMS III ( )	BRITAN NIA	1771
119	GIVE US PEACE	PITT FOR EVER	1730
120	GLORIOUS IER VIS	HIRAROSA	1769
121	" "	HIBERNIA	1789
122	GLORIOUS JAR VIS	BRITAN NIA	( )
123	GLORIOUS PEL LEW	BRITISH TARS	1797
124	GLORIOUS TII ROX	HOSS ANNA	1761
125	GLORIOVS III VES	HIBEKNIA	1769
126	GLORIOVS III VIS	BRITISH TARS	1797
127	" "	BRITONS RULE	1788
128	GLORIOVS IER VES	HEBR IDES	1781

	Obverse.	*Reverse.*	
129	GLORIOVS IER VIS	BRITAN RULE	1771
130	" "	" "	1779
131	" "	BRITISH TARS	1797
132	" "	VAL T BRI TISH TARS	——
133	GLORIOVS PE LEW	BRITAN NIA RULES THE MAIN	——
134	" "	BRITISH TARS	1771
135	" "	" "	1779
136	" "	VAL T BRITTISH TARS	——
137	GLORIOVS PELLEW	HALFPENNY	1796
138	" "	INCORPORATED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT	1792
139	GLORIUS IER VES	HEBR IDES	1781
140	GLORIVS PIT SEX	BRITISH TARS	1767
141	" "	BRITONS RULE	( )
142	" "	BONNY GIRL	1788
143	GLORIOUVS III VIS	BITIT	——
144	GOD SA VE TH KING	BRITANNIA RULES	1771
145	GOD SAVE THE KING	BRITAIN NIAS ISLES	——
146	" "	BRITAN NIA ISLES	——
147	GOD SAVE THE KING	NOBE BGTA	1696
148	" "	NORTH WALES	——
149	" "	" "	1792
150	" "	OF ENG LAND	1772
151	GOD SAVE THE REALM	MUSIC CHARMS	1775
152	" "	PAX PLA CID	1775
153	GOD SAVE US ALL	BRITAN NIA	1774
154	" "	HIBE RNIA	1696
155	GORDIUS REYS	DELECT TATRUS	1781
156	" "	HEBR IDES	1781
157	GREGORIVS III PON	BRITAIN RULES	1771
158	" "	BRITISH GIRLS	1788
159	" "	HEBR IDES	1781
160	GREGORS III PON	BRITAN NIA RULES THE MAIN	——
161	GREGORY II BAN	BON GFL	( )
162	GREGORY III PAX	BONNI FACE	( )
163	GREGORY III PON	BEL ONA	1771
164	" "	BONNY GIRL	1779
165	" "	BRITAIN RULES	1731
166	" "	" "	1771
167	" "	BRITAINS ISLES	1721
168	" "	" "	1730
169	" "	" "	1771
170	" "	BRITISH GIRLS	1788
171	" "	BRITISH TARS	1767
172	" "	" "	1797
173	" "	BRITONS RULE	1788
174	" "	PAX PLA CID	1773
175	GRUMRUIS ITA NEX	HIRARMIA	1776
176	GULIELMUS SHAKESPEAR	BRITAN NIA	1775
177	" "	BRITANNIA RULES	——
178	" "	BRITONS GLORY	——
179	" "	BRITONS RULE	1771
180	" "	" "	1791
181	" "	ENG LANDS GLORY	——
182	" "	HIBERNIA	1781
183	" "	STRATFOR DIENSIS	1781
184	GULIELMUS SHAKSPEAR	HISPANNIOLA	1791
185	GULIELMUS SHACKSPIRE	BRITAN NIA ISLES	——
186	" "	BRITANNIAS ISLES	——
187	GULIEMUS SHAKESPEAR	BRITAN NIA	——
188	" "	NORTH WALES	——
189	" "	" "	1792
190	GUSTAVAS ADOLPHUS	BEL ONA	1771
191	GUSTAVAS VASA	BRITANN CUS	1771
192	" "	BRITANNI CUS	1771

	Obverse.	*Reverse.*	
193	H— —L	NON PROCUL DIES	1696
194	IOHN HOWARD F R S	UNITY AND PEACE	—
195	IOHN KEMP	NORTH WALES	1796
196	" "	UNITY AND PEACE	—
197	IOHNSON PUGALIST	NORTH WALES	—
198	IOHN WILKINSON IRON MASTER	" "	—
199	LONG LIVE THE KING	BATER SEA	1776
200	" "	BRITAN NIA RULES THE MAIN	—
201	" "	NORTH WALES	1761
202	LOUIS THE SIXTEENTH	BRITONS HAPPY ISLE	—
203	" "	MUSIC CHARMS	—
204	LUD XX DEI GRA	BRITANNIAS BAND	1771
205	LUGDUN XV DEC GRATIA	FRANCIAE ET NAVARÆ EXCUSS	1720
206	OLIVER CROMWELL	SOUTH WALES	—
207	PAYABLE AT I WILLIAMS	(Blank)	
208	" " "	BRITANNIAS ISLE	1791
209	" " "	MUSIC CHARMS	1775
210	" " "	NORTH WALES	1792
211	PAYABLE AT W WILLIAMS	" "	1782
212	PAYABLE AT W WILLIAMS	NORTH WALES	1792
213	PAYABLE AT WM	DELECTAT RUS	—
214	PRINCEPS WALLIÆ	" "	—
215	"	PAX PLA CID	1775
216	RD WOLFENDEN 1783	HIBERNIA	1769
217	ROMULUS	VIRTVS NVNC DEFICIT ICXXX	—
218	SFORGIVS I LUDOVICUS XVI	(Blank)	—
219	SHAKESPEARE	NORTH WALES	—
220	SHAKES PEARE	RULE BRITANNIA	1771
221	SR BEVOIS SOUTHAMTON	HALFPENNY	1796
222	" " "	NORTH WALES	—

223	TVRCVPELLARIVS	HISPANNIOLA	—
224	THOMAS SEYMOUR	BRITONS HAPPY ISLE	—
225	" "	MUSIC CHARMS	—
226	" "	NORTH WALES	—
227	" "	SOUTH WALES	—
228	WILLIAM PIT P M	MACCLESFIELD HALFPENNY	1792
229	WILLIAM WILLIAMS	HIBERNIA	1766
230	WILLIAMS WILLIAMS	NORTH WALES	—

FARTHINGS.

231	DUKE OF YORK	FARTHING	1796
232	GEOGIS III REX	BRITAN NIA	1777
233	GORGE GORDON	PEACE AND PLENTY	—
234	GEORGE RULES	BRITAN NIA ISLS	—
235	" "	BRITAN NIA ISLES	—
236	" "	BRITANNIA RULES	1771
237	" "	BRITAN NIAS ISLES	—
238	" "	FARTHING	1793
239	" "	MNITH INO	1797
240	GEORGEV GORDON	PEACE AND PLENTY	—
241	GEORGIUS II REX	FARTHING	1778

	Obverse.	*Reverse.*	
242	GEORGIUS PEL LEW	BRITONS RULE	1776
243	GEVRCV ATOETE	ETAENA ROA	—
244	GLORIOVS H OWE	BRITAN NIA	1794
245	GLORIOVS DUNCAN	BRITAN RULES	1771
246	GOD SAVE THE KING	FARTHING	—
247	GRAGORY II PON	BRITAIN RULES	1771
248	GREGOIVS III PAX	BRITAIN RULES	1771
249	IC NEWTON	BRITONS RULE	1794
250	" "	FARTHING	1793
251	" "	"	1794
252	ISAAC NEWTON	BRITAN RULES	1797
253	" "	COMMERCE PROTECTED	—
254	" "	FARTHING	1771
255	" "	"	1793
256	LORD CAMDEN	PEACE AND TRADE	—
257	SR ISAAC NEWTON	FARTHING	1793

VERMONT.

		Fair.	Good.
1785	Cent. Bust r. *R.* Immune Columbia,	—	—
1785	" Mountains and trees, sun l. *R.* Radiant sun,	—	—

1785	" Similar. Sun r., eight trees. Vermonts. *R.* Radiant eye,	85	2 00
1785	" Similar. Vermontis,	1 25	2 50
1786	" " 7 trees. Vermontensium,	85	1 50

786	" Similar. 9 trees	85	1 50
1786	" Infant's bust r. Auctori Vermon,	75	2 50
1786	" Mailed bust l. Vermon Auctori,	50	2 00
1787	" Mailed bust r. Vermon Auctori,	25	50
1787	" Mailed bust l. *R.* Britannia,	25	50
1788	Cent. Mailed bust r. Vermon Auctori,	25	50
1788	" Mailed bust r. *R.* Et lib Inde,	—	—
1788	" Mailed bust r. Georgivs III Rex. *R.* Inde et Lib	50	1 50

VIRGINIA.

George III.

1773 ½d. *R.* British Arms. Fair, .25; good, .50; unc., 1.00.

WASHINGTON.

Cents and Tokens.

		Fair.	Good.
1783	Bust. Washington and Independence. *R.* Unity States, etc., One Cent,	35	60
1783	Military bust. *R.* Liberty seated, United States (var.),	35	1 00
1783	Similar, with large togated bust (var.),	35	1 00
1785	Gen. Washington. *R.* Confederatio,	—	—
1785	Same. *R.* Heraldic eagle,	—	—
—	" *R.* Shield as on N. J. Cents,	—	—

John W Haseltine on
Crosby Collection Catalogue
refers to
6/27/87
Pa Bungtowns as prohibited
by law of 1781

#1242 et seq (evasions)
except lot 1261 1772-78 Obv ½ d. "pine

"All the following are half-pence & light
weight that circulated in Pennsylvania
and were prohibited by proclamation from
the Council July 14th, 1781"

U. Elliot woodward

Bureaucrat tokens called

various called Pennsylvania Coppers

30 pieces

1 eg was Haines #1992 oct 14th 1880

Matthew A Stickney Sale
June 25, 1907

1.05 # 336 1739-1787 Half pennies
George II and III Counterfeit halfpence which are in facsimile of the regal issue retaining the correct inscription, Different and the greatest number I have ever seen together.
Poor to very fine 29 pieces

We put them under title
Pennsylvania or "Bungtown Coppers"

and puts evasions with them in the lists (334 + 335) 18 evasion ½d
not
138 evasion ½d

Stacle's Sale 1|18|36

Preceding lots
#421 - 429

"COLONIAL COPPER COINS STRUCK AT BUNGTOWN, PA., etc."

1964
In my library

ANS Library

Sales catalogued by S. K. Harzfeld.
1718 Park Ave
Phila.

March 13, 1878

.764 # 543 1770 about. Pennsylvania Base Half-penny.
Crosby p. 172. Head to right - figure of Britannia -
no legend. Fair

64 # 544 Another. Head to left, and one with Harp on
Reverse. Rather poor. 2 pieces.

.109 .764 # 545 Another. 1772. Britus Sextus Rx Britan Rule.
Crosby p. 173. Rather poor.

Mar 14, 1879

.764 # 343 Base halfpenny, circulating in Pennsylvania about
1770. Good, scarce.

.764 # 344 Another. God Sa-ve the King — Britannia Rules. Fair.

Sept 11, 1879

629 Georgius III Vic. Base Halfpenny, circulated
in Vermont & Pennsylvania. Worn, scarce.

Feb 7, 1880

225 1760 (about) Pennsylvania Halfpenny (so called)
Georgius III. Rare. Very good, scarce.

(over)

In January, 1884 Numisma by Edward ~~Edward~~ Frossard
Vol 8 No 1.

It says.

S. K. Harzfeld moved back to Germany in Summer of 1883 & died in winter of 1883.

Harzfelds first takeover Oct 25, 1877

Harzfeld introduced the Swazey Sewes to America collectors

Says Woodward in his 12/11/85 catalogue

Harzfeld, S.K. Sale Catalogues.

ANS.

Library has: Oct. 25, 1877,
March 13, 1878 #543 544 545
Dec. 7, 1878
March 14, 1879 #323 #324
June 5, 1879
Sept. 11, 1879 #629
Dec. 10, 1879
Dec. 30, 1879
Feb. 17, 1880 #225
March 9, 1880
April 9, 1880
June 30, 1880
Sept. 10, 1880
Oct. 29, 1880
Nov. 26, 1880
Jan. 24, 1881

p18 on pattern fraud.

1081a on pattern fraud.

~~[illegible]~~

#669 12/10/79 Maris plate

#705 Harzfeld 4/9/80
Pa Packet and Advertiser 9/18 to 9/25, 1786
under Numismatic Books, etc.

Haseltine's Paper Money Sale Apr 1878
770 lots

W. Elliot Woodward's 80th Sale 12/10/85 (Matthews Collection)

Lot 2006

"Pennsylvania copper. To our late Friend Haxzfield belongs the credit of introducing this remarkable series to American collectors. It is very extensive and increasing in numbers daily. 6 pieces."

1964

Chas. Steigerwalt Catalogues
103 E. King St.
Lancaster, Pa

April 13. 1882

#470 Pennsylvania Tory coppers, Quintus Brutus, Georgius III etc varieties as usual in fair condition, very scarce 5 pcs.

March 28. 1883

#339 Pennsylvania Bungtown Coppers, God Save the King, Georgius Susses, etc. good lot, one pierced 5 pieces

June 18. 1883

#391 1760, etc. Pennsylvania "Bungtown". Habelonia 1769, Georgius Ludovicus XVI, Gloria Pitt Rex, etc etc. A remarkable lot, all different, some I have never met with before. Fair and good. 16 pieces

Apr 9, 1885

#878 Pennsylvania Bungtown "[redacted] Gulielmus Shakespear" Rev., "England's glory". Very fine.

Here and There

Ted Hammer

Comments on Bungtown

all erroneous

Scrapbook July 1961

Vol 27 p 1737

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

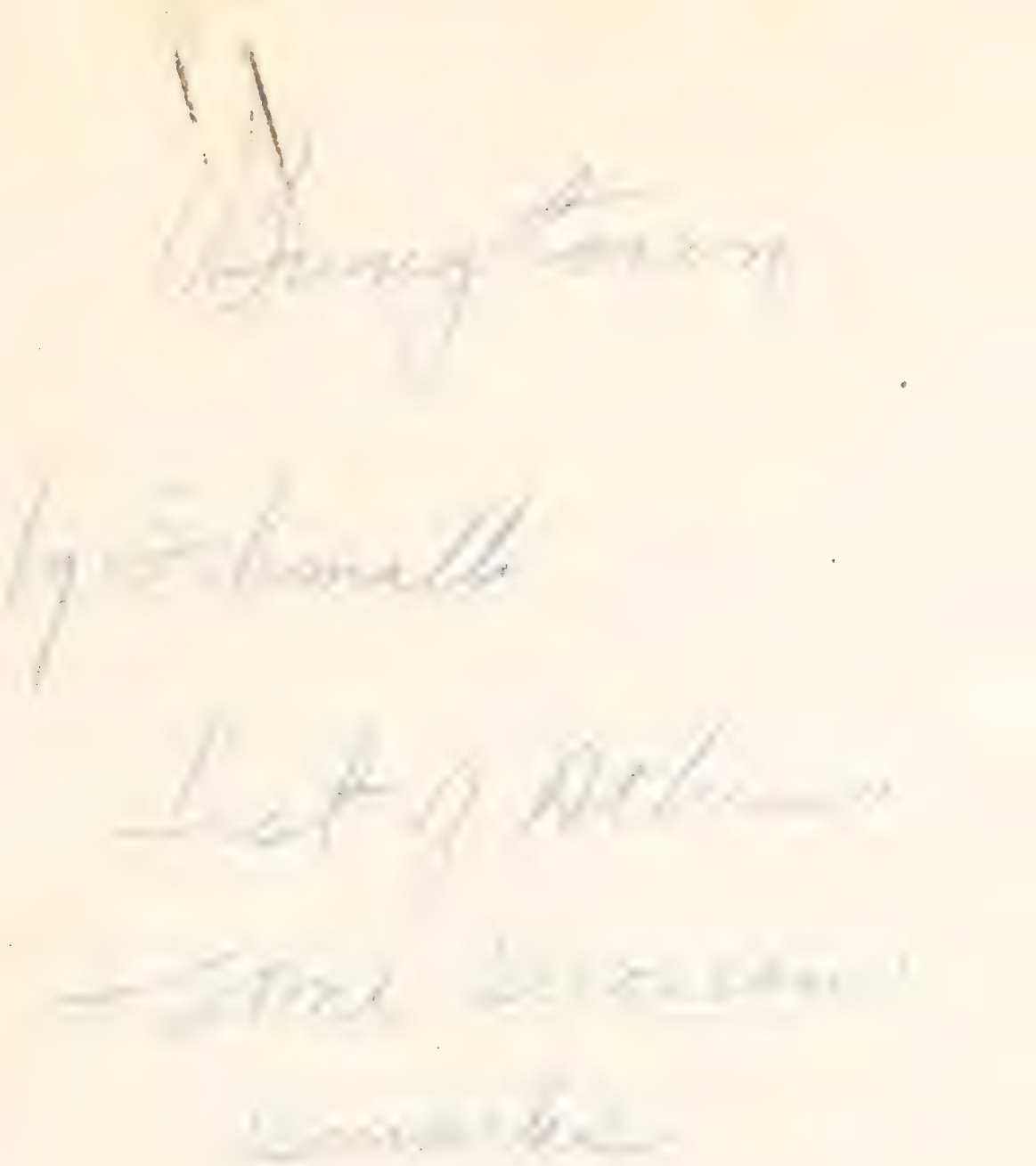
Howard H. Kurth

"The Auction Plebis Coppers"

Numismatic Review
Vol I No 2 P 14
Sept 1943

"The term Bungtown, usually applied to those crude and light weight coppers made at Birmingham and other places in rough imitation of the British and Irish halfpennies. They were extensively in England especially during the middle 18th century and many were sent to the colonies." The resemblance of the bungtowns to the regal coppers were often merely superficial "Bumbug inscriptions" Shows he thought Bungtowns were evasions

Sears p 56 Bungtown comes from Birmingham



Nuns Scrap
Nov 15, 1945
Vol XI p 1126

MEMO FROM THE DESK OF MARK A. EDISON

TRADEMARK

Mark Peterson
Article in
Apr 1956
Numismatist
on BUNGTOWN

shows no indication
of subject
Not illustrated
missing

Better Buy Brezner

W. C Eaton Collection - H. Chapman 5/1/29

#196 "Bungtown or Pennsylvania Copper
Half Pence"

"A wonderful collection of these curious copper half pennies of George II and [redacted] III; they were not official, but apparently were allowed to pass current, being used mostly in Penn[redacted], where they were officially recognized. Commander Eaton has devoted years to gathering this collection, having his list of wants both in American and English dealers' hands. ***" 330 pieces

Harvard 1962

Steigerwalt's Corn Journal Vol I No 4 Jan 1884 Lancaster Pa

p. 86

Pennsylvania Bungtowns "Glorious ex Vis" "George Suo Sex" "Gregory III Pon" "God Save the King" Good, each 25¢

Bushnell Sale Catalogue June 20, 1882

#988-992

" Coppers Circulated in Pennsylvania Known as Bungtowns "

988 Col Kirk
989 God Save the King
990 St Bervors
991 not given
992 1781 N. Am Token

BUNGTOWN-S

Numismatic Review July 1944 Vol 2 No 1 p27
"A discussion of the so-called Bungstown Tokens" by Charles V Schmall

p 30 Says Bungtown is ~~City~~
North Wales, Pa

The editor says these are ~~thrown~~ to be tested.

~~Says~~
cites preachers notes of
visiting ~~in~~ North Wales

~~This is a very interesting~~
~~article and should be investigated~~